

1. (Once amended) A method for collecting network information from and providing user information to a plurality of computer networks, wherein each of the plurality of computer networks includes a server and computers, the method comprises the steps of:

- a) transmitting, by the servers of the plurality of computer networks via a communication device over a first wireless communication channel, network information to a host computer;
- b) upon receiving the network information, storing, by the host computer, the network information to produce stored network information;
- c) determining, by the host computer, at least one computer network of the plurality of computer networks to receive specific user information, wherein determination is based [, at least in part,] on the stored network information;
- d) transmitting, by the host computer via a second wireless communication channel, the specific user information, to the server of the at least one computer network; [and]
- e) distributing, by the server of the at least one computer network, a portion of the specific user information to at least a computer of the at least one computer network; and.

[e)] f) after receiving the specific user information, displaying, by a computer of the at least one computer network, the specific user information.

7. (Once amended) In the method of claim 1, step [(e)] f) further comprises displaying the specific user information, wherein the specific user information includes at least one of bug reports, bug fixes, updates, free software, and pricing information.

8. (Once amended) In the method of claim 1, step (a) and step (d) further comprise transmitting on the first wireless communication channel and transmitting on the second wireless communication channel, respectively, wherein the first wireless communication channel is the second wireless communication channel.

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11. (Once amended) A method for collecting network information from and providing user information to a plurality of computers, the method comprises the steps of:

- a) transmitting, by the plurality of computers via a communication device over a first wireless communication channel, network information to a host computer;
- b) upon receiving the network information, storing, by the host computer, the network information to produce stored network information;
- c) determining, by the host computer, at least one computer of the plurality of computers to receive specific user information, wherein determination is based [, at least in part,] on the stored network information;
- d) transmitting, by the host computer via a second wireless communication channel, the specific user information to the at least one computer; and
- e) after receiving the specific user information, displaying by the at least one computer, the specific user information.

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16. In the method of claim 11, step (a) and step (d) further comprise transmitting on the first wireless communication channel and transmitting on the second wireless communication channel, respectively, wherein the first wireless communication channel is the second wireless communication channel.

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21. (Once amended) A method for a host computer to collect network information from and provide user information to a plurality of users, the method comprises the steps of:

- a) upon occurrence of an event, receiving network information from the plurality of users;
- b) upon receiving the network information, storing the network information to produce stored network information;

- c) determining at least one user of the plurality of users to receive specific user information, wherein determination is based [, at least in part,] on the stored network information; and
- d) transmitting the specific user information to the at least one user.

REMARKS

1. In response to the Office Action dated 12/07/94, the applicant hereby amends his specification at page 3, lines 20 and 22. The applicant hereby cancels claims 9-10 and 19-20. The applicant hereby amends claims 1, 7-8, 11, 16, and 21.

2. The following is the background of the present invention:

In a world of multiple computers, fewer servers, and fewer yet "host" computers, and further in a world of increasing velocity of new applications and newer versions of previous applications, it is believed that computer users could be more effective by shortening the time it takes to update their computer with the latest and greatest features. Moreover, in a world of expanding diversity of use of computers, it is believed that manufacturers could do a better job of providing products and services based on receiving better, more timely computer use information.

3. The present invention is about:

providing two wireless communication links between a computer/software manufacturer's host computer and the users' computers; and,

one wireless communication link is a many-to-one situation where many computers can transmit "network information" to the manufacturer's host computer.

Moreover, when groups of user computers are arranged in Local Area Networks (LAN's), a server that operates within that LAN may be introduced to act as an agent between the manufacturer's host and the group of computers (i.e. the server would collect network information from the LAN devices, over the LAN, and transmit it to the host over the first wireless link; the server also receives user information over the second wireless link from the host computer and it distributes it over the LAN to the computing devices).

Moreover, here's how it all works together: